

CONFETTI Confetti is NOT permitted in or around the church grounds.

NON-PARISHIONERS Those who are not identified with the parish community and are being married in St Joseph's Parish are encouraged to make a contribution to the parish towards the upkeep of the parish church. We suggest a donation of \$100.00.

DONATION TO THE PRIEST CELEBRANT No sacrament of the church has to be 'paid for'. However, it is appropriate to make a donation for the support of the clergy. The priest passes this on to the Clergy Trust Fund. To assist you in your planning we suggest a donation of \$200.00.

CONCLUSION We hope this guide is of assistance to you. If you have any queries, please speak to your celebrant or our parish priest. They will be very happy to help.

CONTACT DETAILS:

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CHRISTCHURCH 8542



***CELEBRATING
YOUR WEDDING
IN
ST JOSEPH'S PARISH
PAPANUI
AT
ST GREGORY'S CHURCH***

A GUIDE TO ASSIST YOU



GETTING MARRIED AT ST JOSEPH'S PARISH, PAPANUI



Congratulations on your engagement to be married. The Church rejoices with you. Below you will find some notes which will answer some of the questions you have as you make preparations for your wedding day.

FIRST THING TO DO Speak to the parish priest to arrange an appointment with him. At this meeting he will confirm if he is available and the church is free on the date you want. He will then put you in contact with the Marriage Preparation Team.

NOT FROM ST JOSEPH'S PARISH? You are welcome to use our parish church (subject to availability). However, you will need to arrange for your local priest to come to celebrate your wedding for you. Once your priest has agreed to celebrate your wedding, we will confirm the booking of St Gregory's Church, while St Joseph's Church is closed due to the earthquake.

MARRIAGE LITURGY The priest performing the marriage will assist you in preparing the ceremony. As your wedding is a sacred event, sacred scripture and hymns should be at the heart of your ceremony.

PREPARATION COURSE It's important to be aware that the Church requires all couples to undertake a marriage preparation course prior to the wedding. Our diocese asks that you advise us six months prior to the wedding so that preparations (including the course) can be arranged. In our parish we run a course (over four consecutive Sunday evenings) twice a year.

Together

MARRIAGE LICENCE This must be obtained before any marriage can take place. This must be applied for, in person, to the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, then given to the priest celebrant, at least two weeks prior to the wedding. It is valid for three months.

MUSIC The parish organist, Mr Michael Zon (phone 381-6444) is available to play at weddings. Recommended donation is \$100.00. Our pipe organ is of high quality; if you wish to provide your own organist then you must gain permission and consult with the parish organist.

PHOTOGRAPHS These are permitted, however, these persons must keep away from the sanctuary. Filming and photographing must not interfere or distract from the ceremony, remembering the church is not a studio, but the house of God. Special lighting is not permitted. Please ask those taking films to consult with the celebrant.

VIDEOS Please inform your priest celebrant if you intend to have a video of your wedding. This must not interfere or distract from the ceremony. Special lighting is not permitted.

FLOWERS The parish arranges flowers for the church each Sunday. These are arranged in accordance with the church's liturgical season in readiness for the first Mass of each Sunday. You are asked to respect this. Floral arrangements are to remain for all Sunday Masses.

If you want special flowers at your wedding please contact the parish. Where there are two or more weddings on the same weekend, you will need to dialogue with the florist(s) and the other parties. It is appropriate to offer a donation when flowers are arranged for you by the parish. We suggest \$75.00 (apart from the actual cost of any flowers purchased).



EXTRA DECORATIONS When these are placed within the church e.g. ribbons, floral sprays, etc. then we ask that you remove them after the wedding service.